

The Cold War

Brrrrrrrr. . . .

Just kidding,
it had nothing to do with the weather.

WWII

During WWII the Soviet Union and the US were on the SAME SIDE - the Allied power.

So, what happened?

Although the countries worked together during the war, after the war was over both countries had very different ideas of what should happen.

Yalta Conference 1945

At the Yalta Conference in 1945 the Allied Powers tried to come up with a compromise as to what should be done with Europe and its changing borders.

The US and the Soviet Union were two of the MOST influential voices.

The United States wanted to help rebuild Germany.
They thought that it was important for Germany to
become an industrialized nation.

Why do you think the US wanted Germany to
rebuild?

The Soviet Union wanted to disarm
Germany, so that they could NEVER
become powerful again.

Why do you think the US did not want this to
happen?

Communism

Communism (which is a type of government / socialist system) was spreading throughout Europe at the same time.

The US was afraid that Communism was going to make its way over to America; this WAS NOT OK!!!

Communism went against EVERY basic American principle.

The START of the Cold War

Well there really wasn't a start of the cold war, it pretty much started as WWII was ending.

There also was never really a WAR (with actual fighting)

This is why it is called a COLD WAR - because no fighting really took place.

The Korean War

The Korean War
(NOT A COLD ONE, a VERY VERY HOT ONE)
was fought because of the Cold War.

The Cold War Continues . . .

The Cold War went on for quite
a while, it was mind of like
a stand off between
Non - Communist US
and the
Communist Soviet Union.

BOTH countries owned DEADLY
nuclear weapons.

The Cold War in Depth

To help us REALLY SEE what happened in the Cold War, we are going to take a look in our atlases.

